

City of Hyattsville

Hyattsville Municipal Building
4310 Gallatin Street, 3rd Floor
Hyattsville, MD 20781
(301) 985-5000
www.hyattsville.org



Minutes Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZZQoeI2kSOuYhg-iRw-Nxg

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

7:00 PM

Virtual

CITY COUNCIL

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor

Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5

Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Ward 3

Joanne Waszczak, Ward 1

Greg Barnes, Ward 1

Danny Schaible, Ward 2

Emily Strab, Ward 2

Gopi Dhokai, Ward 3

Edouard Haba, Ward 4

Michelle Lee, Ward 4

Kelson Nisbett, Ward 5

ADMINISTRATION

Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator

Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk, 301-985-5001, cityclerk@hyattsville.org

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

PRESENT:

Mayor Robert S. Croslin
Council President Joseph Solomon
Council Vice President Kareem Redmond
Councilmember Joanne Waszczak
Councilmember Greg Barnes
Councilmember Danny Schaible
Councilmember Emily Strab
Councilmember Gopi Dhokai
Councilmember Edouard Haba
Councilmember Michelle Lee
Councilmember Kelson Nisbett

ABSENT:

Also Present:

Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Deputy Budget Director Ben Bosch
Chief of Police Jarod Towers
Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
City Planner Chloe Kauffman
Community Development Specialist Danny Mears
Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard
Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner
City Clerk Nate Groenendyk
Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor
Emergency Operations Manager Reginald Bagley
Strategic Advisor Lesley Riddle
Project Manager Allie O'Neill
Program Coordinator Ronald Lewis

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of Minutes

4.a. 2026-273 Approval of Minutes

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- April 22, 2026
- April 27, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Minutes_April 27 2026, Minutes_April 22 2026

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- April 22, 2026
- April 27, 2026

Motion made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

5. Public Comment (7:10 PM - 7:20 PM) Limit 2 minutes per speaker

- Justine Hayward (W3) expressed concern about the ICE expansion at the Metro One Building and asked for more communication from the City regarding it.
- Charlotte Francoeur (W2) thanked the Council for passing the immigrant relief fund and asked the Council to prioritize micromobility in the City.
- Sarah Harper (W2) asked the Council to push back against the ICE expansion at the Metro One building and asked for more communication from the City regarding it.
- Mr. Marshall (W4) stated his opposition to increases in the tax rate. He also asked the Council to remove funding for "The Spot", the immigrant relief fund, Throne portable bathrooms, and the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department in the FY27 budget. Lastly, he inquired about the funding for the World Cup watch parties.

6. City Administrator Update (7:20 PM - 7:40 PM)

The Deputy City Administrator provided updates on city programming and events and staff acknowledgments.

The Council and staff discussed the proposed ICE expansion and new senior programming through the Community Services department.

7. Presentations (7:40 PM - 8:10 PM)

7.a. 2026-258 Formula 2040: Function Master Plan for Parks, Recreation and Open Space (M-NCPPC)

For presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: Hyattsville Community Meeting_Formula 2040

Director Ulysse introduced Molly Jackson, Don Herring, and Amol Deshpande from the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission to give an overview of the Formula 2040 Master Plan.

The Council and staff discussed the new multi-generational center on Adelphi Rd, mobility equipment for seniors at local parks, and ways to keep trails and parks clean. They also discussed increasing lights and safety measures on the trails and trail connectivity in transportation hubs.

8. Proclamations

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the City Council adopt the proclamations.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

8.a. 2026-276 National Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing June 5, 2026 as

National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0526 National Gun Violence Awareness Day 2026

9. **Appointments**

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Council President Solomon, that the appointments be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

9.a. **2026-274 Appointments to the Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee**

I move the Mayor and Council approve the appointments of Council President Joseph Solomon and Council Vice President Kareem Redmond as Council Liaisons to the Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee and appoint Mikhail Flom (Ward 2), Saswathi Natta (Ward 3), Kristan Skendall (Ward 2), Kaitlyn Kyle (Ward 5), Leonard Peacock (Ward 3), Diasia Ellerbee (Ward 3), and Zaneeta Daver (Ward 3) as members to the Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years to end on May 26, 2028.

Sponsors: Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Daver Redac Application, Ellerbee Redac Application, Flom Redac Application, Kyle W5 Redac 5.19.26 Application, Natta Redac Application, Peacock Redac Application, Skendall Redac Application

10. **Consent Items (8:10 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.)**

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature, and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the

Mayor/Council request specific items be removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the consent agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

10.a. 2026-253 Second Agreement between WMATA and HPD for Overtime

I move Mayor and Council to authorize the City Administrator to enter into a second agreement between the City of Hyattsville and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for secondary employment for HPD officers, upon the review and approval of the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Police

Attachments: WMATA and hyattsville2026

10.b. 2026-262 Award of Stormwater Infrastructure Repair and Maintenance Contract

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with NZI Construction, Inc. for stormwater infrastructure improvements throughout the City, utilizing a rider on Prince George's County contract 965-H(G)C. The agreement amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 dollars will be for the same terms, conditions, and period of performance, including all extensions as issued by Prince George's County, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: 965-H(G)C NZI Construction Stormwater Repair and Replacement Program, Bid Tabulation 965, 965 NOI NZI Construction_ (part 1) - signed

10.c. 2026-272 Disbursement of Mayor Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$200 of FY26 Mayoral discretionary funds to support the City of Hyattsville Youth Advisory Council's initiative to install "988" signage throughout the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Robert S. Croslin, Mayor

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Prioritized YAC Recommendations 988 Signage

10.d. 2026-255 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of FY26 Ward 1 discretionary funds to support a Pride event hosted by the Hyattsville Elementary School PTA.

Sponsors: Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember, Greg Barnes, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.e. 2026-256 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$300 of FY26 Ward 1 discretionary funds to Arrow Bicycle to support the purchase of bike helmets for the Bike Rodeo.

Sponsors: Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember, Greg Barnes, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.f. 2026-257 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$500 of FY26 Ward 1 discretionary funds to support the City of Hyattsville Youth Advisory Council's initiative to install "988" signage throughout the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember, Greg Barnes, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Prioritized YAC Recommendations 988 Signage

10.g. 2026-277 Disbursement of Ward 2 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of FY26 Ward 2 discretionary funds to support the City of Hyattsville Youth Advisory Council's initiative to install "988" signage throughout the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Emily Strab, Councilmember, Danny Schaible, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Prioritized YAC Recommendations 988 Signage

10.h. 2026-278 Disbursement of Ward 2 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$1,000 of FY26 Ward 2 discretionary funds to Councilmember Danny Schaible to support community World Cup events at Streetcar 82 and Franklins.

Sponsors: Danny Schaible, Councilmember, Emily Strab, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.i. 2026-263 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$500 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to support the City of Hyattsville Youth Advisory Council's initiative to install "988" signage throughout the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.j. 2026-264 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$500 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to support the Ward 3 community meeting on June 4, 2026, at University Hills Duck Pond Park.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.k. 2026-265 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to Jonah Gulthrie to support a community event in the Gateway West community.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.l. 2026-266 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$500 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to Leonard Peacock to support a beautification project in the Editor's Park neighborhood.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.m. 2026-267 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$150 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to Council Vice President Kareem Redmond to support a community event at the University Town Center Apartments.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.n. 2026-268 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$501.73 of FY26 Ward 3 discretionary funds to reimburse Councilmember Gopi Dhokai for supplies purchased to support PGCC Owl Pantry, an on-site food/supply pantry and closet on the Prince George's County Community College Campus.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Order Details for Owl Pantry

10.o. 2026-269 Disbursement of Ward 4 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of FY26 Ward 4 discretionary funds to support the City of Hyattsville Youth Advisory Council's initiative to install "988" signage throughout the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Michelle Lee, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Prioritized YAC Recommendations 988 Signage

10.p. 2026-270 Disbursement of Ward 4 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$638.33 of FY26 Ward 4 discretionary funds to Councilmember Michelle Lee to support the Ward 4 Spring Meet and Greet community outreach event on June 20, 2026.

Sponsors: Michelle Lee, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10.q. 2026-271 Disbursement of Ward 4 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$1350 of FY26 Ward 4 discretionary funds to Councilmember Edouard Haba to support Ward 4 Community Day.

Sponsors: Michelle Lee, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

11. Action Items (8:15 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.)

11.a. 2026-275 Hyattsville Ordinance 2026-01: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget (Introduction and First Reading)

I move the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for the general purpose, fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning

July 1, 2026; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied, and appropriating funds for the fiscal year (INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments: HO_2026-01_FY27Budget

Treasurer Ron Brooks and Deputy Budget Director Ben Brosch gave an overview and first reading of the FY27 budget.

The Council and staff discussed fund balances, past-due audits, and anticipated expenses for construction projects. They also discussed funding for affordable housing, retiree benefits, cybersecurity systems, and traffic calming projects. Council President Solomon asked the Finance Department to prepare a slide that reflects revenues, expenditures, and projects for the second reading of the budget.

12. Discussion Items (8:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)

12.a. 2026-245 Establishing New Rules Related to the Registration, Maintenance, Security, and Monitoring of Vacant Properties Located in the City of Hyattsville.

For discussion. Proposed motion: I move the Mayor and Council authorize the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance whereby owners of vacant buildings would be required to register such properties with the City of Hyattsville for purposes of reducing blight and to ensure that the owners of those properties abide by a minimum standard of safety and security standards.

Sponsors: Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: Legislative

Attachments: College Park Ordinance, Mt Rainer Ordinance, Seat Pleasant Ordinance, Takoma Park Ordinance

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance whereby owners of vacant buildings would be required to register such properties with the City of Hyattsville for purposes of reducing blight and to ensure that the owners of those properties abide by a minimum standard of safety and security standards. Motion made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Council President Solomon.

CM Barnes, Director Jeff Ulysse, City Planner Chloe Kauffman, and Community Development Specialist Danny Mears gave an overview of the initiative to begin a vacant property registry.

The Council and staff discussed whether the list would contain residential and commercial properties, crime data that correlates to the presence of vacant buildings, and zoning changes that would impact vacant properties. They also discussed the number of vacant commercial properties in each ward and the timeline for the registry to become active. CM Schaible encouraged robust discussion of the ordinance when it is received from the City Attorney. CM Haba and CM Lee strongly advocated for the registry to include residential properties.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

13. Council Dialogue (9:15 p.m. - 9:25 p.m.)

14. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Council President Solomon, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:23 PM.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: